

# GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

*Published Weekly by*

## THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion. General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.)

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Contents for Week of November 9, 1942. Vol. XXI. No. 18.

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- 



*W. Robert Moore*

### IRONING IN KOREA LOOKS AND SOUNDS LIKE BEATING A DRUM

White, for centuries the color of mourning, became the standard wear in Korea when so many emperors died in quick succession that people thriftily decided to wear mourning constantly. The Korean man wears white trousers tied at the ankle, topped by a white kimono. The woman's dress of perpetual white has long sleeves and an ample skirt. Only young children escape white clothes. Finely woven of grassy fiber and bleached, the somewhat stiff white fabric of Korean garments launders easily—and frequently. To "iron" it, the housewife wraps it smoothly around a wooden roller which is supported by upright pieces on a smooth flat rock. Then she and her servant alternately whack the roller smartly with pairs of miniature baseball bats. Turning, the roller pounds the garment against the smooth stone and flattens out all wrinkles. Women are industrious, as indolence has long been grounds for divorce in Korea (Bulletin No. 3).

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### HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic School Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers in the United States and its possessions for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (stamps or money order); in Canada, 50 cents. Entered as second-class matter, Jan. 27, 1922, Post Office, Washington, D. C., under act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of Oct. 3, 1917, authorized Feb. 9, 1922. Copyright, 1942, by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Quedan reservados todos los derechos.

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### The Solomons Battlefield of Guadalcanal

**J**APANESE and American troops fighting on Guadalcanal—a link in the outstretched double-chained Solomon Islands—are battling on land that was among the earliest in the South Pacific to be discovered and explored by Europeans.

Almost four centuries ago—even before the shores of Australia had been sighted by Dutch explorers—members of a Spanish expedition, seeking new lands and new wealth, went ashore and placed a cross on an island now identified as Guadalcanal. They considered it “so large it would take a half-year to go around it.”

In 1568, in the name of Spain, the expedition's Master of Camp gave to the island the name of his own native village, 50 miles from Seville—Guadalcanal. The name, of Spanish origin, is a corruption of the Arabic word *wadi*, meaning “river,” and *canal*, which is Spanish for “channel.”

#### Cannibal Warriors Ate Ginger for Courage

This “large” fat link lying almost at the southeastern limits of the Solomons chain is actually less than 100 miles in length and approximately 30 miles wide. It is an island clothed in tropical trees and colored with flashes of brilliantly feathered birds.

Its lowlands are hot and humid, but while coast temperatures frequently sizzle at 92 degrees, mountain temperatures are often as low as 49 degrees. No hurricanes lash this island, but the winds and the rains of the monsoons are regular visitors.

Most of the 15,000 natives living on Guadalcanal are dark-skinned Melane-sians. A great number of these have come under the influence of the white man through missions established there.

Some still cling to customs old as the island itself. A man once was not considered a man until he had killed and eaten his victim “to give him strength.” Warriors, painted and decked out for battle, ate ginger to give them courage. Early explorers found the ginger plant growing abundantly in many places on the island.

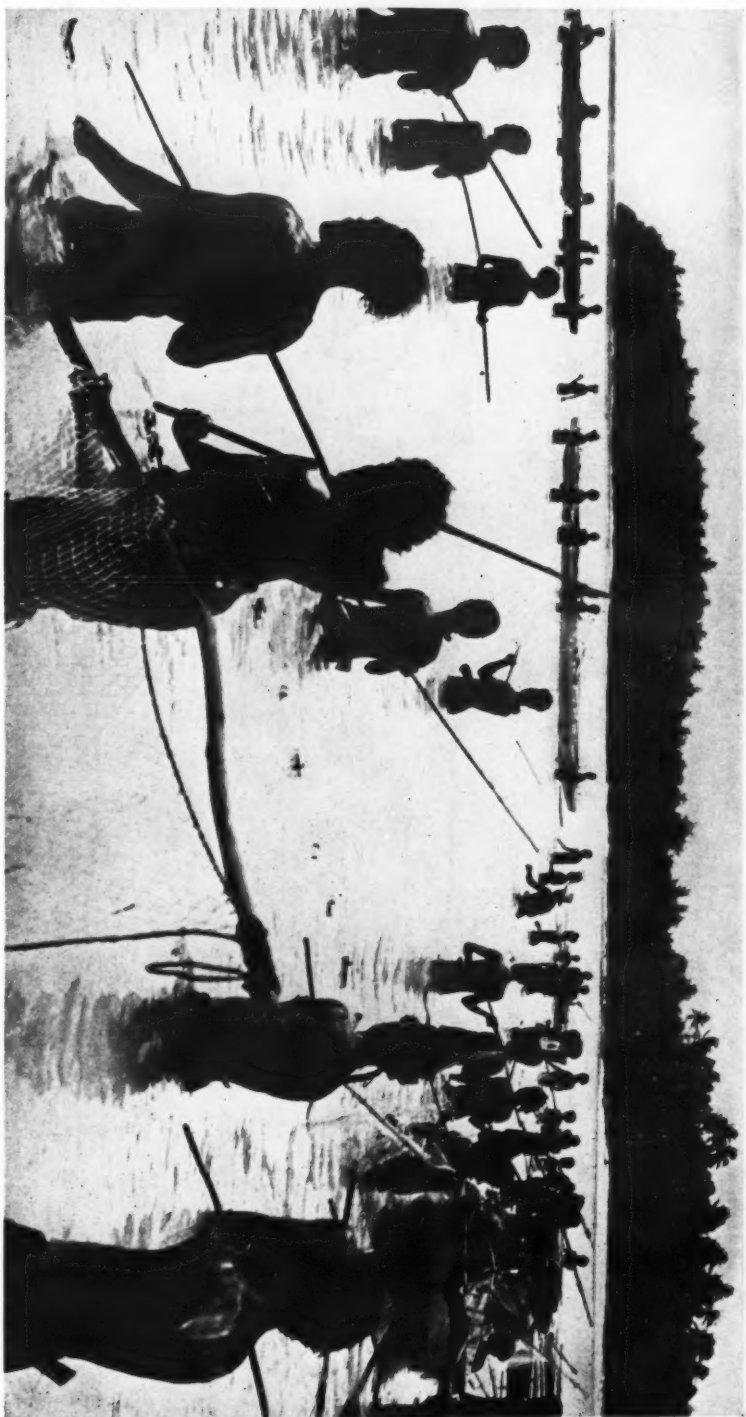
When a native needed cash, he “went to the bank” by driving porpoises into shallow water, where the obliging creatures smothered themselves in the mud and died. The “cash” in the form of porpoises' teeth was extracted and the native, loaded down with “money,” went to the village to do his buying. Teeth of porpoises have been used as native currency on the island for hundreds of years.

#### Frogs as Big as Rabbits and Giant Bats Furnish Food

While bush rats as big as cats swarm over the island, frogs as big as rabbits live in the rivers and swamps. Some of these tasty morsels for native diet measure more than two feet long and weigh upwards of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pounds. When the frog clan gathers for the night's sing, they sound like a pack of beagles on a hunt.

Mosquitoes, some carrying malaria, constantly hum through the air in low-flying squadrons. Huge black bats, prized by the natives for food, wing their way over the tropical war-struck island. This is the home of a species of long-tailed pigeon rarely found elsewhere.

The most densely populated and fertile part of the island lies along the north shore where the land slopes gently toward the sea. Along this coast a number of



# **SOLOMON ISLANDERS USE A BIG RING INSTEAD OF A LITTLE HOOK TO CATCH THEIR FISH**

*Australian National Research Council*

Several canoe loads of fishermen paddle feverishly to where a school of fish has been sighted, jump overboard, and take up this ring-around-a-rose formation surrounding the fish. Long nets (foreground) hauled along in canoes are joined together to make an underwater fence within the circle of men. Moving toward shore and tightening their circle, the fishermen scoop up the fish from the shallow water in small nets or spear them (center). Then the big nets full of flopping fish are pulled ashore in the shade of the graceful palms that supply Solomon Islanders with coconuts for copra, their chief export. This method of community fishing is one of several in use on Guadalcanal, where U. S. forces have fought the Japanese in the South Pacific (Bulletin No. 1).

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### Happy Birthday!—Tell It to the Marines

**W**ITHOUT creaking joints or failing strength or any other sign of age, the United States Marine Corps will be 167 years old on November 10, and as vigorous and valorous as ever. Nearly a year older than the Declaration of Independence, and twelve years older than the Constitution, the Leathernecks became a part of the young United States' very foundation when the Continental Congress authorized the U. S. Marines on November 10, 1775. They have brought their early nickname with them from Revolutionary days, when Marines wore a leather stock to protect their necks from the cutlasses and sabers then in use.

Eighteenth century sea duels between lumbering sailing vessels produced the Marines as differentiated from the Navy and other mariners. While Navy seamen had their hands full maneuvering their ship alongside the enemy vessel, the Marines bared their cutlasses and loaded their muskets; when the ships were parallel, the Marines went "over the top" as a boarding party to attack the enemy on his own deck. On the historic *U. S. S. Constitution* ("Old Ironsides") they fought off enemy boarding parties from the *Guerriere*. They served under John Paul Jones on the *Bon Homme Richard*. He had his eye on his Marines when he said, "I have not yet begun to fight."

#### U. S. Marines Landed First in Bahamas

As long-range naval guns eventually brought an end to gunwale-to-gunwale sea fights, the Marines applied their boarding technique to the equally dangerous job of getting a foothold on the enemy's land (illustration, next page). They are now among the most conscientious geography students in Uncle Sam's armed forces.

The Marine Corps has made historic dates of 92 years out of its 167 by launching "landings." Counting the present war, on more than two hundred occasions the Marines have landed, and it has become axiomatic that the situation thereafter is well in hand. One of the most recent was their landing in the Solomon Islands, the first land attack of the present war launched by the U. S. The Marines made defensive history also, with their gallant defense of Wake Island.

The very first landing of Marines made in the name of the young United States was a joint effort with the Navy, and a bloodless victory. Recruited largely from men owning firearms, this first Marine task force sailed in March, 1776, under Captain Samuel Nicholas, first Marine officer commissioned and the first commandant. With the infant fleet of Commodore Esek Hopkins they made their way secretly to one of the Bahama Islands, New Providence, where they landed and captured the British fort with only three shots fired and no casualties. The 600 barrels of gunpowder they captured were carried back to the United States.

#### Camelback Campaign Took Sea-Soldiers to Tripoli

Almost within their first year the "sailor-soldiers" served with the Army as well as the Navy. By December, 1776, they were reinforcing George Washington in the battles of Trenton and Princeton.

It was while serving with the Army again in the first World War that the Marines took part in the battle of Belleau Wood and planted the first American flag beside the Rhine in 1918.

The chronicles of the Marines record landings on three foreign continents. "The shores of Tripoli" found their way into the Marine Hymn after a detach-

Bulletin No. 2, November 9, 1942 (over).



rivers spill into the sea, notably the Korombusu and the Aola. The silt brought down by these rivers in flood seasons turns the near-by sea water a muddy tan. Native villages, traders' houses, missions, hospitals, government stations, and huge commercial coconut plantations are numerous. One of the government stations is the settlement of Aola, on the bay where the Aola River empties into the sea.

### Mountains in South, Plains in North

Unlike the southern and eastern coasts, where huge mountain barriers lift their forest-snarled heads almost as high as the 8,000 feet of Mt. Popomanasiu, the island's highest peak, the north coast is relatively flat and smooth. The much-contested bone of battle, Henderson Air Field, is located on this coast beside the Tenaru River, between the two plantation villages of Lunga and Tenaru. This is only 22 miles directly south across the channel from Tulagi, capital of the Solomons group.

Note: Guadalcanal is shown on a large-scale inset on the National Geographic Society's Map of the Pacific Ocean, and on the Map of the Theater of War in the Pacific Ocean. A price list of maps may be obtained from the Society's headquarters in Washington, D. C.

For additional information on the Solomons and other islands of Melanesia, see "Treasure Islands of Australasia," in the *National Geographic Magazine*, June, 1942; "North About," February, 1937\*; and "Coconuts and Coral Islands," March, 1934. See also "The Solomon Islands, Where Marines and Japs Clash," in the *GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS*, October 5, 1942. (Issues marked by an asterisk are included in the special list of *National Geographic Magazines* available at 10¢ each in groups of 10.)

Bulletin No. 1, November 9, 1942.



*Australian National Research Council*

### CARPENTERS TURN SCULPTOR TO CARVE GRACEFUL CANOES FROM CLUMSY LOGS

The undecorated dugout canoe is called *gie-orkea* on Guadalcanal, an ugly duckling of a boat lacking the beautiful carving and shell inlay with which the more elaborate boats are adorned. The natives above are chipping away a log of driftwood to the outside shape of a canoe. Then they will gouge out the inside until only a sturdy wooden shell remains, thick enough to bang against coral reefs without caving in. It will take them two months, working six hours a day, to finish shaping the tough wood, although they have steel tools. While the owner usually does most of the work on his canoe, he may appeal for the help of several experts, such as the one who fastens a palm strip along the gunwales to keep the paddles from wearing the wood. These canoes, less seaworthy in the heavy surf and swift currents around the islands than outrigger canoes or larger canoes with tilted prows, are used locally only.

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### Korea "Exhibit A" in Japan's "Co-Prosperity" Program

WHEN Japan promises to embrace all Asia in the "Co-Prosperity Sphere," other Asiatics can observe how a Co-Prosperity program has worked out in Korea: Japan has prospered, Korea has paid. This small country north of China was Japan's first toe hold on the continent of Asia, conquered in 1905-1910.

Under the "Asia for Asiatics" program, unwilling Korea finds that her cotton, iron, coal, and graphite feed the Japanese war machine; her river power helps to turn Japanese wheels; her gold mines help to pay Japanese bills. Her schools, newspapers, money, and postage have been japanized.

Japanese police have forbidden Koreans to assemble in meetings, have suppressed free speech. In 1939-40 the authorities spent some \$300,000 to stamp out "thought crime"—which might be simply thinking about resistance to Japan.

#### Koreans First To Use Movable Type

Just as relentlessly the Japanese have suppressed American enterprise in Korea. Americans built Korea's first trolley line and first railroad; they developed the gold fields. All have been frozen out, except a few missionaries.

Korea is a peninsula, Florida-shaped, pointing daggerlike at Japan 125 miles to the southeast. To the west is the Yellow Sea, where tides rise more than 30 feet. To the north are Manchukuo and Siberia's Maritime Province.

Korea's civilization began with the founding of a dynasty by exiled Chinese 3,000 years ago, gave arts and Buddhist culture to Japan. Koreans developed movable type 50 years before Gutenberg printed the Bible. They devised a phonetic alphabet modeled on Tibetan Sanskrit. More than three centuries ago Koreans invented oar-propelled ironclad ships and destroyed a Japanese fleet.

To isolate herself from Japanese interference, Korea shut herself up and became the Hermit Kingdom, shunning all traffic with foreigners. France and the U. S. sent expeditions to avenge nationals slain there. But Japan—in 1876—was first to force Korea to open her ports to foreign trade. Japan established a protectorate in 1905 and annexed Korea in 1910, restoring Korea's ancient name—Chosen (Land of the Morning Calm).

#### Absentee Landlords Keep Farmers Poor

Prominent among Korea's ills is the tenant farmer problem. More than 70 per cent of the country's 21 millions are farmers. But absentee landlords own most of the land, and take half of the crops from the farmers who do the work. As a result, the poverty-stricken farmers suffer from "Korean spring sickness"—known elsewhere as starvation. Their share of the previous crop having been exhausted before the new crop is harvested, they are forced to eat bark, grass, acorns, and weeds. Most of the rice, the principal crop, is exported to Japan. The farmer eats millet.

Japanese-ruled schools teach some 900,000 children, but 2,000,000 in remote regions go uneducated. Shinto, the religion which emphasizes veneration of Japan's emperor, is one of the subjects. Christians number more than half a million.

Materials-starved Japan has introduced wool production and the growing of American cotton into Korea; has planted peach, apple, pear, and grape. Railroads, motor roads, and airways—all with an eye to transportation of Japanese armies toward Siberia—crisscross Korea.

Bulletin No. 3, November 9, 1942 (over).



ment under Lieutenant O'Bannon, in 1805, toiled on foot and camelback across the Sahara from Egypt to the port of Derna in Tripoli, there raising the American flag for the first time on the continent of Africa. A later African exploit, in 1903, took the Marines into the highlands of Ethiopia by mule train.

Japan first met the U. S. Marines when they accompanied Commodore Perry on his 1853-54 expedition. In 1867 they landed on Formosa, the island now called Taiwan in Japan's empire. In 1871 they took the American flag into Korean waters to enforce humane treatment of shipwrecked sailors. After a number of landings in China to protect American interests, notably during the Boxer Rebellion, garrisons of Marines were regularly stationed there until the present war.

The Philippines, Sumatra, the Fiji Islands, the Marquesas, Samoa, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Iceland, and the Azores are among the island spots where the Marines have landed. They raised the first American flag in Alaska and in the Virgin Islands when these areas were added to the United States.

With worldwide experience behind them, the Marines entered the war with 64,053 men (November, 1941), and units specializing in tanks, planes, gliders, parachutes, artillery, amphibious tractors, and chemical warfare.

**Bulletin No. 2, November 9, 1942.**



*Official Photograph U. S. Navy*

#### **MARINES MUST STUDY THEIR GEOGRAPHY BEFORE THEY MAKE A LANDING**

Rocky cliffs, sandy beaches, tangled swamps—which will a landing party encounter on a hostile shore? That is why it is important for the Marines to brush up on geography, since it is their specialty to capture from the sea a foothold in enemy territory. After they land, newspaper readers reach for their maps, to find the location of such out-of-the-way places as Guadalcanal. The first landing the U. S. Marines made after they were authorized by Congress on November 10, 1775, was in the Bahamas, and the 200 or more they have made since then have touched Europe, Asia, Africa, and islands in nearly every sea. Usually the Marines co-operate with the Navy, as above, but sometimes they may be attached to an Army command, as they were in World War I in France and Germany.

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### **Liberia, a U. S.-Built Haven for U. S. Forces**

**R**EPORTS that American forces are now stationed in Liberia spotlight Africa's only independent republic, set amidst Europe's patchwork of colonies along the west coast of the continent.

The Negro republic of Liberia is situated at the strategic "Atlantic Narrows," where the west-thrust African continent faces the eastward bulge of Brazil across the narrowest portion of the South Atlantic. Along the coast on both sides of Liberia are colonies of France and Great Britain, while farther away lie dependencies of Portugal and Spain. Vast French West Africa (Vichy-controlled) stretches around Liberia's landward borders except where the British colony of Sierra Leone stands on the northwest. The much-discussed Vichy port and base, Dakar, is only about 750 air miles northwest of Liberia.

#### **Has Been United States Protégé**

Liberia ("Land of Liberty") is slightly larger than Ohio, although the State's population is at least three times that of the African nation. Liberia's inhabitants are estimated at a number somewhere between one and two millions. In January, 1941, even before the nation became an important stop on commercial and military air-ferry lines between the United States, West Africa, and beyond, 261 United States citizens were reported in Liberia.

Traditionally a protégé of the United States, Liberia was first colonized by American freed slaves nearly a century and a quarter ago. Liberia became independent in 1847. Its government and constitution were modeled after those of the United States. Its capital was named Monrovia for James Monroe, fifth president of the United States, because the society which colonized Liberia was organized during his term of office. Thomas Jefferson was one of its sponsors.

Uncle Sam is the leading buyer and seller in Liberian markets. English is the official language, spoken in the settled and civilized coastal regions. Once beyond the coast towns, however, with their whitewashed buildings and imported ways of life, the traveler finds a tangled jungle land of primitive peoples and throbbing tom-toms, where each native tribe speaks its own tongue. An important coastal tribe is the Kru people (illustration, next page).

#### **No Good Harbors or Railway**

The nearest point in Liberia is about 4,500 miles from New York City. Along Liberia's 350 miles of coast live most of the people.

Although Liberia has a number of ports of entry, it has no good natural harbor. Even at Monrovia, and at the increasingly important rubber port of Marshall, big ships have had to anchor two miles out. Men and provisions were sent ashore on small lighters which often had to row across dangerous sand bars and through heavy surf.

Liberia has no railway and only about 300 miles of motor roads. Only a few of its rivers are navigable, and those for short distances. On the other hand, its climate, while tropically hot and humid, is less unhealthful than that of many other parts of West Africa.

Liberia gives promise of considerable wealth through its fertile soil, excellent pasture lands, and rich mineral deposits. At present, only the production of rubber

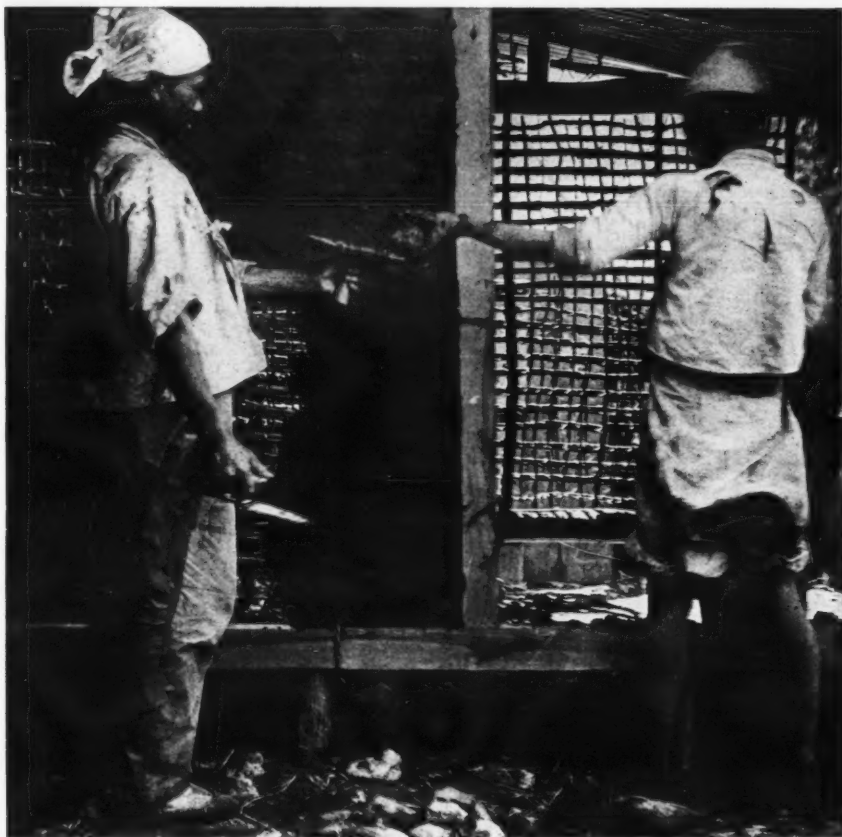
The Japanese complain of Korean "laziness." Koreans contend that the occupiers leave them no motive for working hard. Korean women spend their time laundering white clothes, the invaders say (illustration, cover).

Korea's main port of entry is Fusan, in the southeast. Most modern port is Rashin, five years ago a fishing village. There Japan has lavished millions to develop a rival to Russia's Vladivostok, 100 miles away. Seoul, the capital, which the Japanese call Keijo, is 24 miles up the Han River from Jinsen, its port. Largest city in Korea, Seoul has a population of about 400,000. Its crumbling palaces and city walls attest Korea's ancient glories.

Note: Korea may be found on the National Geographic Society's Map of Asia, and the Map of the Theater of War in the Pacific Ocean.

For further information on Korea, see "Chosen—Land of Morning Calm," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1933. See also "Korea (Chosen), with Raw Materials for Resources-Poor Japan," in the *GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS*, March 4, 1940.

**Bulletin No. 3, November 9, 1942.**



*From Willard Price*

#### **KOREAN HOMES, OF BACKYARD MATERIALS, ARE BIG MUD-COVERED BASKETS**

Millet stalks from the garden, tied and woven basketlike, are the wall framework over which the Korean smooths mud from the yard. One workman, dressed in the inevitable Korean white in spite of the nature of his job, mixes the mud while the other plasters it on (left). Usually of one story, with roof of thatch or clay tile, the average house is any shape but square—semicircles, V's, L's. During the severe winters these houses become virtual ovens. Hot air and smoke from a stove outside a wall are drawn through flues under the stone floor to a chimney in the opposite wall. The floor makes a warm bed on a below-zero night.

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### Geo-Graphic Brevities

#### ST. LAWRENCE WATERS EXCEED GREAT LAKES IN AREA

**A**NNOUNCEMENT that a Canadian ship was sunk by an enemy U-boat in the St. Lawrence River may sound impossible—unless a map is handy. For the St. Lawrence is no ordinary stream with banks close together. It is some 80 miles wide near Anticosti Island and 150 miles upstream its banks are still 30 miles apart.

The river, discovered by Cartier in 1536, ranks high among the world's streams in volume of water discharged. With canals and the Great Lakes, it joins Chicago and Duluth by water with Europe. Trade of western Canada with the United Kingdom has built the great cities of Montreal and Quebec on its banks.

When the Gulf of St. Lawrence is added to the great funnel-shaped expanse of the lower river, the combined area is half that of the North Sea. It exceeds the area of the five Great Lakes together. It would drown New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, with Delaware and most of Maryland thrown in.

The Gulf has three entrances from the Atlantic. The largest, between Newfoundland and Cape Breton Island, is 55-mile-wide Cabot Strait. The Strait of Belle Isle to the north, 10 miles wide, separates Newfoundland from Labrador and carries shipping on the shortest route to Liverpool. Smallest is the half-mile Strait of Canso, between Cape Breton Island and Nova Scotia.

The Gulf's navigation hazards include frequent fogs. Iron ore deposits in the north shore hills cause strange compass deviations. The severe winter that freezes the river several months causes ice jams in the spring (illustration, next page).

Largest island in the gulf is Anticosti, twice the size of New York's Long Island. It was the stronghold of a pirate band a century ago, but in recent years a sportsman's paradise. It was surveyed by Nazi agents in 1937. Prince Edward Island, smallest of Canadian provinces, is noted for its fur farms.

Note: The St. Lawrence is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of Canada. The following articles in the *National Geographic Magazine* contain information about the St. Lawrence River region: "Anticosti Island, Nugget of the North," January, 1942; "Gentle Folk Settle Stern Saguenay," May, 1939\*; and "Old France in Modern Canada," February, 1935\*.

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#### SOVIET UNION TO OBSERVE 25TH "INDEPENDENCE DAY"

**N**OVEMBER 7 is to the 170,000,000 people of the Soviet Union what the Fourth of July is to the United States. This year the Soviet Independence Day is the Silver Anniversary of the October Revolution of 1917 which ended the last traces of the Tsarist Empire. It will be marked within the embattled Union by speeches summarizing achievements of the quarter century of a workers' and peasants' government which have made possible their present resistance to Nazi invaders.

November 7, 1917, was October 25 according to the old Russian calendar which gave the October Revolution its name. On that day the provisional government led by Alexander Kerensky—set up after the downfall of the Tsars—was replaced by the Council of People's Commissars. Leader of the new council was Nicolai Lenin, revered by his countrymen as Father of the Soviet Union since his death in 1924. Commissar for National Minorities in that historic council of 25 years ago was Joseph Stalin, Russia's Man of Steel of today.

Bulletin No. 5, November 9, 1942 (over).

has been commercially pushed so that it provides a major money crop. A United States rubber company in 1925 leased a million acres not far from Monrovia, of which an estimated 77,000 acres have been planted. Since the loss to the Japanese of Far East rubber plantations, Liberia's production has loomed especially large. The export figure of between two and three million pounds in 1935 jumped to more than 14,000,000 pounds in 1941.

From Dakar southeast to Liberia the entire coast of West Africa is low, the plateaus and mountains rising some distance inland. Heavy undergrowth makes passage difficult in most of the region, and there are few overland transport routes—and no through railways. The only rail lines extend from seaports of the various colonies to their own inland points, without connecting links.

Sparsely settled for the most part, this section of Africa is tropical in character, with swamp and desert vegetation that varies not only from place to place but from season to season. Autumn is the most favorable time for travel. The main rainy season in these regions lasts from May to August or September. In general, however, the climate of this coast is not suitable for the white man. Liberia, with its next-door neighbor, Sierra Leone, has the heaviest rainfall recorded for Africa's westward coastal bulge.

Note: Liberia is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of the Theater of War in Europe, Africa, and Western Asia, and Map of Africa.

For more information on Liberia, see "Monrovia Has One of Four U. S. Legations in Africa," in the *GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS*, March 8, 1937; and "Chicken-less Liberia: Africa's Sole Independent Republic," January 29, 1940.

*Bulletin No. 4, November 9, 1942.*



*Harry A. McBride*

#### **LIBERIA'S "WATER-BABY" KRUS LIVE ON THE WATERFRONT**

Monrovia stands on the 300-foot plateau of Cape Mesurado, looking down on the Mesurado Lagoon to the north and the Atlantic to the west. At the foot of the Mesurado headland, linked by steep and narrow streets, lies the jumble of wooden houses of Kru-Town, a self-governing settlement of the dark natives who furnish most of the fishermen, deck hands, boatmen, and dockworkers for this part of Africa's coast. They are in demand as ship crews as far away as Dakar and Fernando Poo to the north. Since Liberia has no good harbors, ships must anchor off shore and Kru boatmen lighter both passengers and cargo between ship and shore, skillfully plunging through heavy surf and dodging sand bars in two or three feet of water. In splinter-narrow dugout canoes they go fishing miles out in the Atlantic. Most Krus have a tribal mark of blue tattoo on the forehead. Kru-Town, whose governor is appointed by Liberia's president, has electric lights, for which everyone pays an electric tax.



From 1917 to 1922, Russia struggled through dark years of experimentation with its new form of government. In 1922 the country was organized into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, including the huge Russian Republic, the Ukraine, White Russia, and Transcaucasia. Other republics joined, making a total of 16 in 1940.

Differences over policy threatened the U. S. S. R. with chaos in the four years after Lenin's death in January, 1924. Stalin, who stood for concentrating on building up the young nation, in 1926-27 won out over Trotsky, who insisted on first promoting a world revolution for socialism. This led to Trotsky's expulsion and Union-wide progress in all lines under Stalin. The First Five-Year Plan, started October 1, 1928, was a speed-up of heavy industry, agriculture, and education. Workers endured hardships to hasten the achievement of their goals. Small peasant farms were pooled into large collective farms and worked with tractors on a large scale. The Soviet Union was recognized by the United States late in 1933.

The Second Five-Year Plan, which at first promised an easier life to the people, had to be revised to plan for national defense against Germany's growing Nazi party, which was dedicated from the start to an attack on Russia. The Third Five-Year Plan set up large defense industries in the Urals and eastern Russia, well removed from threatened borders, and developed coal, iron, oil, gold, and manganese. By 1940 production in all lines was many times greater than the best pre-Soviet record.

Late in 1936 the Soviet Union under Stalin's guidance adopted a Constitution providing for nation-wide elections, a president, and a two-chamber governing body comparable to the U. S. Congress.

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#### SHIPS CLIMB ASHORE IN WINTER TO ESCAPE ST. LAWRENCE ICE

Most of Canada's rivers, like the giants of Siberia, flow northward into the Arctic Ocean, where little traffic goes. A fortunate exception, however, is the St. Lawrence, which gives almost one-half of Canada an outlet to the Atlantic. Through its canals and the Great Lakes, it links ocean traffic with towns on the west shores of Lake Superior, within 419 miles of Winnipeg, the halfway point of Canada's span. In winter, when the St. Lawrence freezes over, all boats are hauled up on shore out of danger. Then river traffic moves by dog-sled and horse- or ox-drawn sleds. In spring after the thaw, beached boats are pulled across the muddy tidal flats into the river for service again, all the men in small communities helping to push and pull (above).



